



Reading Tips for 4th Graders

Fourth Grade

- The most important predictor of reading success is time spent reading with a parent. Help your child develop a love of reading by reading together every day.
- Use new sights and experiences as teaching tools for new words. Build vocabulary by explaining new things, telling stories about new places, and discussing new objects and their uses.
- After completing a story, novel, or movie, encourage your child to discuss his or her feelings about it. Was it interesting? Was it easy to follow? Did it help you learn? Retell the most interesting part.
- Provide a variety of good reading materials such as newspapers, magazines, and different genres of literature.
- Be sure your child has a library card for the public library and uses it often. Scan the newspaper together for articles of interest to the child. Read and discuss together. Provide opportunities for independent reading.
- Encourage your child to choose books on special topics of interest. Have your child share what he learned. Give books as presents or to commemorate a special event.
- Encourage a variety of writing experiences such as writing a story, thank-you notes, a diary, or a letter to friends or relatives. Writing strengthens reading skills.
- Set a good example. Let your child see you reading.

Reading Essential Skills Your Child Should Know

- Recognize characteristics and organization of text.
- Identify characters' actions, traits, and feelings.
- Distinguish characteristics of various literary forms (realistic fiction, historical fiction, nonfiction, biography, autobiography, fantasy, myths, poetry, drama, fairy tales, and fables).
- Identify theme or main idea.
- Make inferences and draw conclusions.
- Recognize author's purpose for writing.
- Identify Figurative Language (simile, metaphor, hyperbole and personification).



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